

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 00717 231827Z

46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SY-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 /064 W

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P 231735Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2313

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 0717

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, PINS, GR, US

SUBJECT: INVESTIGATION OF WELCH MURDER

1. IN THE COURSE OF MY MEETING TODAY WITH FOREIGN OFFICE DIRECTOR GENERAL TZOUNIS (SEPTELS) I NOTED THAT TODAY MARKED THE ONE MONTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MURDER OF RICHARD WELCH IN ATHENS AND INQUIRED WHETHER HE COULD SHED ANY ADDITIONAL LIGHT ON THE STATUS OF THE INVESTIGATION. TZOUNIS SAID HE ASSUMED THAT APPROPRIATE USG OFFICIALS CONTINUED TO BE IN CLOSEST CONTACT WITH THE GREEK AUTHORITIES INVESTIGATING THE MATTER AND ASKED IF MY RAISING IT WITH HIM WAS MEANT TO INDICATE THAT WE WERE IN ANY WAY DISSATISFIED WITH THE WAY THE INVESTIGATION WAS BEING HANDLED.

2. I TOLD TZOUNIS THAT, ON THE CONTRARY, THE USG HAD BEEN GREATLY IMPRESSED AND APPRECIATED THE UNDERSTANDING, COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE THE GREEK GOVERNMENT HAD SHOWN US IN CONNECTION WITH THIS TRAGIC EVENT. I ADDED THAT ALL REPORTS I HAD RECEIVED CONTINUED TO INDICATE TO MY SATISFACTION THAT THE GREEK AUTHORITIES WERE DOING EVERYTHING THEY COULD TO TRY AND IDENTIFY WELCH'S MURDERS AND BRING THEM TO JUSTICE. HOWEVER, I WENT ON, INASMUCH AS A MONTH HAD NOW PASSED WITH SUCH MEAGER RESULTS  
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PAGE 02 ATHENS 00717 231827Z

I FELT I HAD TO BRING OFFICIALLY TO THE ATTENTION

OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OUR CONTINUED DEEP CONCERN ABOUT THE MATTER AND OUR EXPECTATION THAT THE GOG WOULD BE UNFLAGGING IN ITS EFFORTS IN PURSUING THIS INVESTIGATION. I TOLD TZOUNIS THAT THE USG WAS CONTINUING A MAJOR AND UNREMITTING EFFORT TO ASSIST THE GOG IN BRINGING THE INVESTIGATION TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION, AND THAT WE WOULD CONTINUE TO DO THIS. I REVIEWED WITH TZOUNIS THE MAJOR REASONS WHY WE FELT THIS HAD TO BE DONE AND ADDED THAT AS LONG AS THE ASSASSINS AND THEIR MOTIVATION REMAINED UNKNOWN TO US WE HAD TO ASSUME THAT A CONTINUED THREAT OF SERIOUS DANGER EXISTED FOR US IN GREECE.

3. TZOUNIS GOT THE MESSAGE LOUD AND CLEAR, SAYING THAT HE WOULD DRAFT A MEMORANDUM TODAY TO THE GOG MINISTER OF PUBLIC ORDER INFORMING HIM THAT THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR HAD RAISED THE SUBJECT, EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR ASSISTANCE AND EFFORTS THUS FAR AND REQUESTING THAT THESE NOT BE DIMINISHED IN ANY WAY UNTIL THE RESPONSIBLE PARTIES HAVE BEEN FOUND AND BROUGHT TO JUSTICE.  
KUBISCH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ASSASSINATION, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL, INVESTIGATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 29 APR 2004  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INVESTIGATION OF WELCH MURDER  
**TAGS:** PDIP, PINS, GR, US, (WELCH, RICHARD S)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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